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07:40:41 PDT
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by m06.lax.untd.com (jqueuemail) id JCU3P8MX; Sun, 19 Oct 2003 07:40:41 PDT
To: wa8pxl@juno.com
Date: Sun, 19 Oct 2003 10:40:41 -0400
Subject: Fw: RM-10786
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From: "J. T. BURIK" <wa8pxl@juno.com>
X-ContentStamp: 22:11:3139477740
Dear Sirs,
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The proposed rules change is a direct insult to all of the amateur operators who know and use Morse code. If not for them the amateur service would not be as successful as it is today.

The VEC teams do not want to administer code tests any longer. Let the FCC reopen field offices and schedule testing. That will take care of the VEC's problems. The VEC teams want to profit from sales of study materials so they encourage new entry level licenses. We already have entry level licenses. The FCC has already degraded the entry level by not having code requirements.

The HF bands are already crowded so it does not make sense to allow non code amateurs to enjoy the frequencies that were earned by hard work and dedication to the amateur service. Citizen's Band is a good example of HF privileges being abused by people who are not skilled and no longer licensed by the FCC. Let the FCC learn from that waste of good HF frequencies that are now a joke and a disgrace.

The amateur service is not only a hobby but a helpful resource to the community. There is no room for a licensee that does not have the ability to use Morse code. The Citizen's Band is a perfect example of what happens when people are not educated to radio laws, radio principles and good radio practices.

There has to be a level of pride associated with being licensed as a radio amateur operator. That pride is slowly diminishing because of recent FCC actions. The FCC has lowered the expectations and talent of the new licensees by inappropriate acceptable levels of competency. Incompetency is not good for the amateur service. Incompetency will

destroy the amateur service. Incompetency will make all amateur bands into another free-for-all just like 27MHz.

The FCC relies on competent volunteers to police the amateur frequencies. Given the fact that there will be so many incompetent operators around if the rule changes are made, there will be nothing but chaos on the bands.

If rules are changed, the HF bands will have to be made suitable to the minority. The minority will be a group of non code operators who only want to get privileges that they did not earn and do not deserve.

There are thousands of people just waiting for a free ride. A lot of VEC's will make a living on them, selling test materials for a license that we do not need.

I have no faith or respect for anyone or anybody that wants to allow the amateur services to become another graveyard of misfits and unskilled operators. We are special, we are skilled, we earned our privileges, we are the backbone of the amateur service, we don't need any incompetents getting in our way.

Tad Burik, K3QC